

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An electrophotographic method in which an electrophotographic apparatus comprising a photoreceptor for electrophotography, an image forming
5 light irradiation means and a developing means is used and a step of forming an image is comprised, the step of forming an image comprising the steps of forming a static latent image on the photoreceptor by the image forming light irradiation means based on a background
10 exposure method for scan-exposing a non-image portion comprised of a background portion and visualizing the static latent image by the developing means, wherein
the photoreceptor comprises a supporting member and a photosensitive layer, which supporting member is
15 comprised of aluminum or an aluminum alloy and has a surface being subjected to a surface treatment using water before forming the photosensitive layer and exposing aluminum crystal grain boundaries thereon, and
which photosensitive layer is formed on the supporting
20 member, contains amorphous silicon and has a surface exposing thereon crystal grain boundaries corresponding to the aluminum crystal grain boundaries on the supporting member surface; and
an average grain size of crystal grains
25 represented by the crystal grain boundaries exposed on the photosensitive layer surface is larger than a diameter of a spot of a light beam for exposure of the

image forming light irradiation means which diameter is
a spot width equal to $1/e^2$ of a peak intensity; and
convex portions corresponding to the crystal grain
boundaries exposed on the photosensitive layer surface
5 are disposed on the photosensitive layer surface.

2. The electrophotographic method according to
claim 1, wherein a height of said convex portion is set
within the range of not less than 0.05 μm and not more
10 than 0.4 μm .

3. The electrophotographic method according to
claim 1,
wherein aluminum grains represented by said
15 aluminum crystal grain boundaries exposed on said
supporting member have an average grain size larger
than said diameter of the spot of said light beam for
exposure.

20 4. The electrophotographic method according to
claim 1,
wherein said light beam for exposure is a laser
beam.

25 5. The electrophotographic method according to
claim 1,
wherein said surface treatment using water

includes a treatment using a treatment liquid comprising a detergent dissolved into water having a resistivity of not less than $1 \text{ M}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$ (25°C).

5 6. A photoreceptor for electrophotography comprising a supporting member comprising aluminum or an aluminum alloy and a photosensitive layer containing amorphous silicon and being formed on the supporting member, wherein

10 the supporting member has a surface subjected to a surface treatment using water; convex portions are formed on a surface of the photosensitive layer, corresponding to crystal grain boundaries of aluminum exposed on the supporting member surface; and a height
15 of the convex portions is set within the range of not less than $0.05 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ and not more than $0.4 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$.

 7. The photoreceptor for electrophotography according to claim 6, wherein said surface treatment
20 using water includes a treatment using a treatment liquid comprising a detergent dissolved into water having a resistivity of $1 \text{ M}\Omega\cdot\text{cm}$ (25°C).